

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a schematic representation of the isolation of cDNAs encoding three isoforms of Bim. (A) Open reading frames of five independent clones isolated by screening a cDNA expression library with recombinant Bcl-2 protein. Dotted lines indicate putative splices and arrows indicate PCR primers spanning the splice sites. (B) Relationship of the three Bim isoforms. The black box denotes the BH3 homology region and the hatched box the predicted hydrophobic region. Regions specific to the larger splice variants are shaded. (C) Sequence alignment of the mouse and human Bim_{EL} polypeptide sequences using the GCG "BESTFIT" program; identical residues appear on a dark background. The BH3 homology region and the C-terminal hydrophobic region predicted by the Kyte-Doolittle algorithm are boxed. Arrows indicate residues present only in the longer isoforms. Since the nucleotide sequences of the mouse and human cDNAs diverged 5' of the predicted initiating ATG and there are stop codons in all three reading frames upstream of the human open reading frame, that start codon is likely to be correct.

Figure 2 is a photographic representation of the expression of *bim* RNA in haematopoietic cell lines. Northern blot analysis of polyA⁺ RNA, using a mouse *bim* cDNA probe. The RNAs were derived from the following mouse lines: T lymphomas KO52DA20 (lanes 1 to 5), WEHI 703 (lane 6), WEHI 707 (lane 7) and WEHI 7.1 (lane 8); B lymphomas CH1 (lanes 9, 10) and WEHI 231 (lanes 11, 12); pre-B lymphoma WEHI 415 (lane 13); T hybridoma B6.2.16 BW2 (lanes 14, 15); myeloid progenitor FDC-P1 (lane 16). Those lines that harbour a *bcl-2* expression vector or transgene are indicated. Certain RNAs were isolated from cells exposed to cytotoxic conditions: 1 μ M dexamethasone (14 hr, lanes 2 and 4; 24 hr, lane 5); γ -irradiation (10 Gy) (lane 5). Samples from a single autoradiograph have been rearranged in order electronically.

Figure 3 is a photographic representation of the localisation of Bim protein to intracellular membranes. (A) L929 fibroblasts transiently transfected with EE-tagged Bim_L were fixed, permeabilised and stained with the anti-EE antibody; fluorescence was visualised by confocal